



Session III A, July 24-28, 2017

29. The New Interculturalism: How the Latest Ideas About Communication and Culture Are Reshaping What We Do and How We Think

Note: This is an updated version of a course offered for the first time in 2016.

Today, when the need for intercultural communication expertise has never been greater, many of our older concepts and assumptions are threatened by the speed and complexity of cultural change and new discoveries. How can we update our understanding and our skills in order to meet these challenges with creativity and confidence? In this workshop, we will explore findings from a range of disciplines including anthropology, psychology, linguistics, neurology, geography, and history, which are now as interdependent as cultures and nations. We will consider insights from leading thinkers with a view to formulating a truly multidisciplinary approach to confronting new intercultural realities. Theoretical discussions of cultural change will be combined with practical activities, focusing particularly on the influence of digitization, revealing insights from neuroscience, and the role of social media, providing you with exciting new perspectives to apply in your work and thinking.

Designed for: Teachers, trainers, international educators, consultants, HR professionals, and others who are interested in creative new ideas and activities to help us in our intercultural work.

Workshop Objectives

- Re-examine our assumptions and ideas about “communication,” “culture,” and other key concepts in light of what research tells us today
- Recognize how the digital revolution affects not only communication but also how we now think of “culture”
- Benefit from the workshop’s bank of resources and suggestions for further discovery to which we can all contribute
- Discuss responses to real-world intercultural controversies from multiple perspectives
- Become more aware of the contributions from leading thinkers in diverse disciplines, and how they can inform our understanding and our work

Learning Activities

- Experiencing activities and exercises with a view to adapting them for our own work requirements
- Participating in an off-campus fieldwork exercise designed to illustrate concepts central to the workshop
- Sharing particular interests, concerns, and resources with other participants in a creative, collaborative atmosphere
- Contributing to an ongoing workshop resource bank online of materials and references



Dr. John (Jack) Condon, author, award-winning educator, and founding faculty member of the Summer Institute, is one of the founders of the intercultural field. An emeritus professor at the University of New Mexico, Jack also taught overseas for 20 years in Asia, Latin America, and Africa. He is the director of the Jemez Institute where, with Native American friends and colleagues, he offers field trip seminars in northern New Mexico. Jack is the author of 19 books in the field, and is currently finishing a book, *It Goes Without Saying*, on the works of Edward T. Hall.

Dr. Richard Harris, born in London, U.K., has been a professor at Chukyo University, Japan, for over 36 years. Richard's eclectic research interests range from the influence of physical and psychological space on intercultural encounters to the representation of ourselves and the other in media, museums, tourism, and interpersonal interaction. He is the author of *Paradise: A Cultural Guide*, a study of cross-cultural concepts of the ideal. His latest paper, on rethinking Cultural Relativity, was given at the 2016 American Anthropological Association Conference and will be published later this year.



For more information, please visit www.intercultural.org/siic.html
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